Influx of people in big cities of the country

1741. SHRI MOHAMMED AFZAL alias MEEM AFZAL: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what action Government are taking regarding increasing influx of the people in big cities of the country; and

(b) whether any proposal to check this influx is under Governments' consideration?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) Fourth Five Year Plan onwards, emphasis have been laid on the need to prevent unrestricted growth of metropolitan cities. To tackle the problem of influx of people to the larger cities, plans suggested development of metropolitan and larger cities on a more comprehensive and regional basis and also to develop smaller towns and new urban centres. Regional Plans for various fast growing urban regions like Delhi, Bombay, Madras, Calcutta, Bangalore etc. have been prepared by the Central/State Governments. These plans, inter-alia, suggested for development of satellite and ring towns to ease the pressure on large cities.

In 1979-80, Government of India launched a Centrally-sponsored scheme of Integrated Development of Small and Medium Towns (IDSMT) to provide infrastructural and other essential facilities in these towns by making increased investment so that these towns could provide alternative centres of employment, sub-serve the rural hinterland and ultimately help in mitigating the influx of population towards large and metropolitan cities. The scheme is being continued in the Eighth Five Year Plan with larger allocation. So far, 517 towns have been covered under the scheme and Central assistance amounting to Rs 176.17 crores released.

As regards checking influx of people into Delhi, the Government has constituted the National Capital Region Planning Board. The Board has prepared the Regional Plan-2001 for the National Capital Region comprising besides Delhi UT, parts of the adjoining States of Haryana, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. The plan, approved by the Board, had been notified for implementation with effect from the 23rd January, 1989. This Regional Plan is an inter-related multisectoral policy framework aimed at achieving the core objective of reducing the populaiton pressure on Delhi.

Stagnation of Jr. Engineers and Assistant Engineers in CPWD

1742. SHRI DIPEN GHOSH: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is acute stagnation in the cadres of Junior Engineers and Assistant Engineers in CPWD; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken to remove the stagnation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) Cadre Review of Junior Engineers was implemented in 1987. Government has issued an order dated 22.3-1991 according to which there will be two scales of pay for the Junior Engineers in the CPWD viz., Rs. 1400-2300 and Rs 1640-2900. Junior Engineers on completion of 5 years of service in the entry grade as on 1-1-1986 will be placed in the scale of Rs. 1640-2900 subject to rejection of unfit. Junior Engineers who could not be promoted to the post Assistant Engineer due to non-availability of vacancy in the Grade of AE will be allowed the scale of Assistant Engineer, i.e., Rs. 2000-3500 on a personal basis after completion of 15 years of total service as Junior Engineer from 1-1-91, on fitness basis. This would give considerable relief to Junior Engnieers with long service.